



Martin O'Malley, *Governor*
Anthony G. Brown, *Lt. Governor*
Abigail Ross Hopper, *Director*

Notice of Grant Availability- Parking Lot Solar Photovoltaic Canopy with EV Charger Grant Program

Program Description: Grants for solar photovoltaic (PV) canopy systems installed over parking lots with at least one electric vehicle (EV) charger.

Program Budget: \$2 million in fiscal year 2014

Eligible Entities: Businesses, State and local governments, and non-profits

Type of Grant Program: Grant funds will be allocated to eligible applicants on a first-come, first-serve basis until the day that the program is oversubscribed. On the date of oversubscription, all of the projects submitted on that day will be considered on a competitive basis.

Program Eligibility Requirements and Evaluation Criteria: Applications meeting the requirements for program eligibility will be considered on a first-come, first-served basis until the date that the full budget of \$2 million has been committed. If multiple applications meeting the requirements of the program are received on the date that the aggregate amount of all eligible applications exceeds \$2 million, MEA reserves the right to limit grant funding to the most cost effective, eligible project(s) received on that day only. For the purposes of this program, cost effectiveness will be determined using a total project cost per installed solar PV watt ratio.

At a minimum, the proposed project must:

- Install at least 125 kW of solar PV panels mounted on a canopy structure over a parking lot.
- Be installed and operated in compliance with the requirements of the local and county codes, as well as with applicable requirements of the National Electrical Code (NEC).
- Utilize PV system hardware that is in compliance with all applicable performance and safety standards including: *Underwriters Laboratories (UL) 1741, Standard for Static Inverters and Charge Controllers for Use in Photovoltaic Systems* and *UL 1703, Standard for Safety: Flat-Plate Photovoltaic Modules and Panel*.
- Be installed in a manner that is compliant with the net metering regulations outlined in the Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) 20.50.10 et seq., as well as the requirements of the local electric utility.
- Be installed in a manner that is compliant with the *Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) Standard 929-2000, Recommended Practice for Utility Interface of Photovoltaic Systems*.
- Install at least one qualified electric vehicle charging station powered by the solar PV system. To qualify, the EV charging station must:
 - Be certified by a nationally recognized testing laboratory (NRTL). A list of NRTL is available on the [United States Department of Labor's](https://www.osha.gov/dts/otpc/nrtl/) website: <https://www.osha.gov/dts/otpc/nrtl/>.
 - Be equipped with a Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) J1772 electrical connector.
- Be installed on a parking lot in Maryland which is accessible for use at least five days a week.

In addition, PV systems that are installed on or after **July 1, 2014** have to be completed by installation contractors who employ at least one staff member with a current North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners ("NABCEP") Installation Certification; or, for companies with at least 50 employees, at least one staff member with a NABCEP Installation Certification for every 25 non-administrative employees,

except if an installation contractor has been registered to do business in Maryland for less than 12 months prior to the submission of an application for a grant.

Incentive: Up to \$800 per kW of PV installed with a maximum cap of \$400,000 per project.

Application Deadline: May 15, 2014

Restrictions and Limitations:

- Applicants selected for an award will be required to enter into a Grant Agreement with MEA by no later than June 15, 2014.
- Awards will not be made for projects that start construction prior to the effective date of the Grant Agreement with MEA.
- Prior to the start of construction, selected projects must be reviewed by the Maryland Historic Trust (MHT) or the qualified historical preservation expert on MEA's staff to ensure that no historical property will be adversely impacted. Grantee may be asked by MEA for additional information concerning the proposed project site, in order to enable the historic preservation review.
- All projects selected to receive fiscal year 2014 *Parking Lot Solar PV Canopy with EV Charger* grant awards must be completed and operating, with the *Parking Lot Solar PV Canopy with EV Charger* Grant Completion Package submitted to MEA, by June 15, 2015. The *Parking Lot Solar PV Canopy with EV Charger* Grant Completion Package consists of the *Parking Lot Solar PV Canopy with EV Charger* Completion Certificate; proof that the project is paid in full; copies of all inspection documents, permits, and licenses that are required to operate the project; and a photograph of the installed and operational project.
- Only net metering projects will be considered for this opportunity.
- MEA reserves the right to obligate all or none of the fiscal year 2014 *Parking Lot Solar PV Canopy with EV Charger* Grant Program budget, based on the quality and eligibility of applications submitted to MEA.
- Multiple projects on contiguous parcels of property will be considered one project.
- A project receiving a *Parking Lot Solar PV Canopy with EV Charger* Grant is ineligible to also receive a Solar Commercial Clean Energy Grant.

For more information or assistance, please visit www.energy.maryland.gov or contact:

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Or

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